

EV

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/719,123

Examiner

Allen C. Ho

Applicant(s)

ENDO, TADAO

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 23 November 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10,21,23 and 24.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>31012006</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with James Hwa (Reg. No. 42,680) on 31 January 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 11-20 and 22 have been canceled.

Election/Restrictions

2. Claim 1 is generic and allowable. Accordingly, the restriction requirement as to the encompassed species is hereby withdrawn and claims 3 and 10, directed to the species of II is no longer withdrawn from consideration since all of the claims to this species depend from or otherwise include each of the limitations of an allowed generic claim. However, claims 11-20 and 22, directed to the species of III and IV remain withdrawn from consideration since they do not all depend upon or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as required by 37 CFR 1.141.

In view of the above noted withdrawal of the restriction requirement as to the linked species, applicant(s) are advised that if any claim(s) depending from or including all the

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limitations of the allowable generic linking claim(s) be presented in a continuation or divisional application, such claims may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Once a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 44 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-10, 21, 23, and 24 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With regard to claims 1-10 and 21, although the prior art discloses a radiographic apparatus comprising a plurality of pixels arrayed in a row direction and in a column direction, each including a conversion element and a switch element, a plurality of control interconnections each connected to each of the plurality of switch elements arrayed in the row direction, a plurality of signal interconnections each connected to each of the plurality of switch elements arrayed in the column direction, a driving circuit section connected to the plurality of control interconnections, a read circuit section connected to the plurality of signal interconnections, the read circuit includes a reset device which applies a second bias to the plurality of signal interconnections for resetting the plurality of signal interconnections, it fails to teach or fairly suggest the read circuit includes a refresh device which applies a first bias to the plurality of signal interconnections for refreshing the plurality of conversion elements of each row as claimed.

With regard to claims 23 and 24, although the prior art discloses a driving method for a radiographic apparatus comprising a reset step of applying a second bias to the plurality of signal interconnections for resetting the plurality of signal interconnections, it fails to teach or fairly suggest a refresh step of applying a first bias to the plurality of signal interconnections for refreshing the plurality of conversion elements of each row as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments, filed 23 November 2005, with respect to the drawings have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objection of the drawings has been withdrawn.
6. Applicant's arguments, filed 23 November 2005, with respect to claims 1, 2, 4-9, 21, and 23 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-9, 21, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) has been withdrawn.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- (1) Endo (U. S. Patent No. 6,952,464 B2) disclosed a radiographic apparatus comprising a refresh device and a reset device.
- (2) Endo (U. S. Patent No. 6,818,899 B2) disclosed a radiographic apparatus comprising a refresh device and a reset device.
- (3) Tamura *et al.* (U. S. Pub. No. 2002/0186813 A1) disclosed a radiographic apparatus comprising a reset device (102) that applies a bias (101) to the plurality of signal interconnections.
- (4) Tamura *et al.* (U. S. Patent No. 6,510,202 B2) disclosed a radiographic apparatus comprising a reset device (102) that applies a bias (101) to the plurality of signal interconnections.
- (5) Kobayashi *et al.* (U. S. Patent No. 6,163,386) disclosed a radiographic apparatus comprising a reset device (705) that applies a bias (707) to the plurality of signal interconnections.
- (6) Tamura (U. S. Patent No. 6,084,939) disclosed a radiographic apparatus comprising a reset device (102) that applies a bias to the plurality of signal interconnections.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen C. Ho whose telephone number is (571) 272-2491. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward J. Glick can be reached at (571) 272-2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Allen C. Ho
Primary Examiner
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31 January 2006